

Docket No.132936-1

Remarks

Claims 9-21 remain pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-8 and 22-43, previously withdrawn, have been canceled for the sole purpose of furthering the prosecution of the remaining claims in this application. Applicant maintains the right to prosecute the canceled claims in this or any other application. Claims 9-11, 15, and 18-21 have been rejected. Claims 12-14 and 16 are considered allowable if rewritten in independent form and including all the limitations of the base and any intervening claims.

Claims 9-11, 15 and 17-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(3) as being anticipated by Worthington et al. Claim 9 has been amended.

Claim 9, from which claims 10-21 depend, recites a system for quantifying compounds in fluids, gases, vapors, and solids. The system includes a disc drive for supporting and rotating an optical disc. The optical disc includes a substrate layer and at least one sensor spot. The system also includes, among other things, a light source positioned for directing light onto the at least one sensor spot without first directing the light onto the substrate layer.

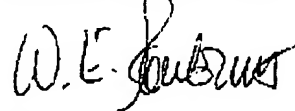
Worthington et al. describes a disc drive system for use with bio-discs. Worthington et al. describes a disc drive, a light source, and optical discs. The optical discs include a substrate layer and at least one sensor spot. The optical discs described by Worthington et al. are all shown and described as having the substrate layer positioned between the sensor spot and the light source (See, for example, FIG. 7). Worthington et al. fails to teach or suggest "said optical disc including a substrate layer and at least one sensor spot" and "a light source positioned for directing light onto the at least one sensor spot without first directing the light onto the substrate layer" as recited in claim 9.

Claims 12-14 and 16 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As argued above, applicant believes that claim 9, from which claims 12-14 and 16 depend, is allowable over the cited art.

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Applicant submits that claims 9-21 are allowable over the cited art and should be passed on to issuance. If the Examiner has any questions, please feel free to contact applicant's counsel at the phone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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